



MARTIN O'MALLEY  
*Mayor*  
250 City Hall  
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

February 22, 2006

The Honorable Robert L. Ehrlich  
Governor, State of Maryland  
State House  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401-1925

Dear Governor Ehrlich:

I was pleased to read in yesterday's newspaper that you, too, are troubled by the proposed deal to place important operations at the Port of Baltimore under the control of the government of Dubai in the United Arab Emirates ("Ehrlich objects to port deal," Baltimore Sun, 2/21/06).

It has been heartening to see elected officials from both sides of the aisle – Democrats and Republicans, in Washington, State Houses and City Halls – speaking up to protect our ports from falling under foreign control.

No issue is more important than our national security in these perilous times. Therefore, I hope you will join me in sending the attached letter to President Bush. Based on your press statements, I trust it represents our mutual position that the Dubai Ports World deal to take over operations at the Port of Baltimore should not be completed.

I have already signed the letter, and ask that you would sign, as well, and forward it to the White House. Thank you for your consideration. I look forward to hearing back from you and to working together to protect our port.

Sincerely,

Martin J. O'Malley  
Mayor